

PUBLIC LAW 110-389 - OCT 10, 2008

SEC.222. OFFICE OF SURVIVORS ASSISTANCE

(a) IN GENERAL - Chapter 3 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 321. Office of Survivors Assistance

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT. - THE Secretary shall establish in the Department an Office of Survivors Assistance (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’) to serve as a resource regarding all benefits and services furnished by the Department-

“(1) to survivors and dependants of deceased veterans; and

“(2) to survivors and dependants of deceased members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) ADVISORY DUTIES.- The Office shall serve as the primary advisor to the Secretary on all matters related to the policies, programs, legislative issues, and other initiatives affecting the survivors and dependents described in subsection (a).

“(c) GUIDANCE FROM STAKEHOLDERS.- In establishing the Office, the Secretary shall seek guidance from interested stakeholders.

“(d) RESOURCES.- The Secretary shall ensure that appropriate personnel, funding, and other resources are provided to the Office to carry out its responsibilities.

“(e) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON OFFICE IN ANNUAL REPORT ON DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES.- The Secretary shall include in each annual Performance and Accountability report submitted by the Secretary to Congress a description of the activities of the Office during the fiscal year covered by such report”.

(b) CLERICAL ADMENMENT - The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended at the end the following new item:

“321. Office of Survivors Assistance.”